November 14, 1958

BUSINESS STATISTICS

A WEEKLY SUPPLEMENT TO THE SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS

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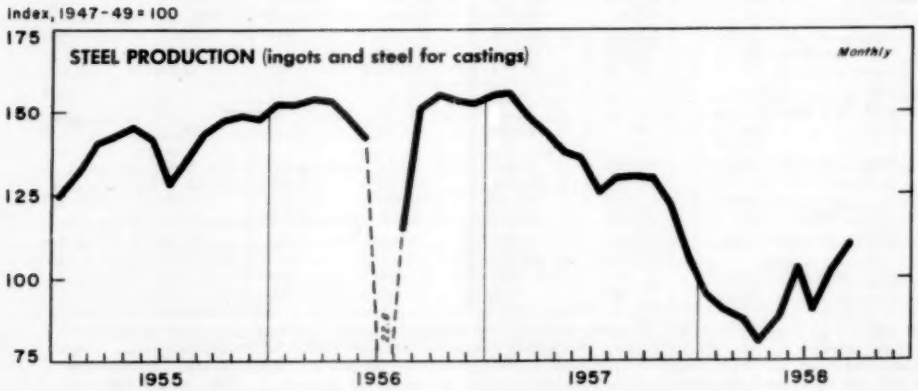
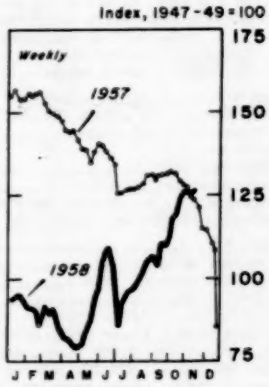
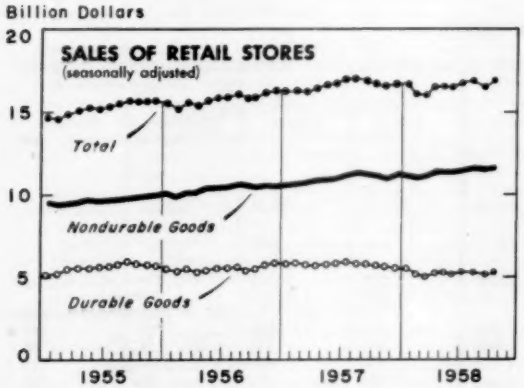
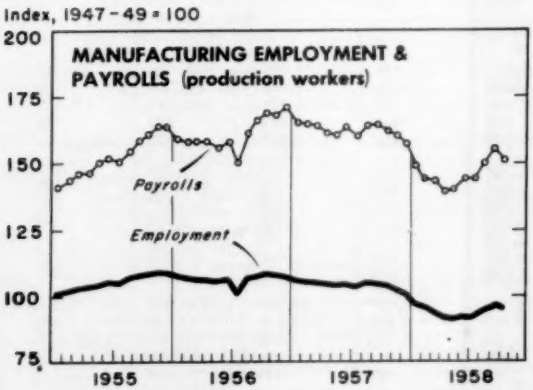
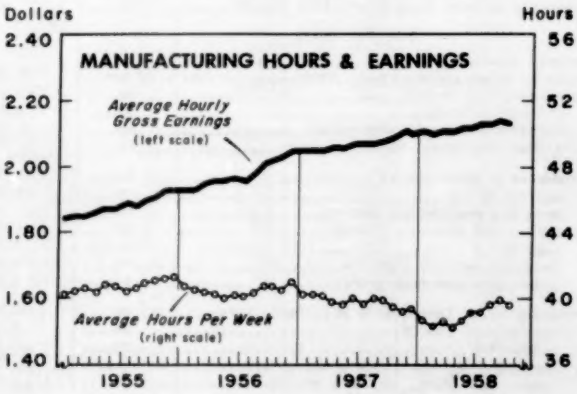
SELECTED BUSINESS INDICATORS











WEEKLY BUSINESS STATISTICS[1]

ITEM	1957		1958			
	Nov. 2	Nov. 9	Oct. 18	Oct. 25	Nov. 1	Nov. 8
Commodity prices, wholesale:						
All commodities.....1947-49=100..	.....	*117.8	118.8	118.6	118.6	118.7
Farm products.....do....	.....	*91.5	92.1	91.3	90.9	91.4
Foods, processed.....do....	.....	*105.5	110.1	109.9	109.6	109.8
All other.....do....	.....	*125.8	126.1	126.1	126.1	126.2
22 commodities 2/.....do....	84.4	**84.4	86.7	87.0	86.8	**87.6
Department store sales.....do....	130	145	146	140	137	.....
Insured unemployment, total.....thous..	1,399	1,455	#1,863	#1,854	.....	.....
State programs.....do....	1,286	1,330	1,694	1,684	.....	.....
Failures, industrial and commercial.....number..	250	266	288	275	299	.....
Finance:						
Currency in circulation 3/.....mil. of dol..	31,008	31,115	31,498	31,435	31,299	31,419
Federal Reserve bank credit outstanding, total 3/....do....	24,972	25,225	26,925	27,046	26,767	26,694
Member bank reserve balances 3/.....do....	18,837	18,963	18,475	18,652	18,515	18,416
Excess reserves, estimated 3/.....do....	363	454	515	614	554	449
Reporting member banks (of F.R.System) in leading cities:4/						
Demand deposits, adjusted.....mil. of dol..	55,805	54,800	56,136	56,703	57,283	.....
Time deposits, except U. S. Government.....do....	23,974	23,943	28,243	28,230	28,233	.....
Loans and investments (adjusted), total.....do....	86,743	86,277	94,584	94,062	93,906	.....
U. S. Government obligations.....do....	25,191	24,959	32,123	31,854	31,632	.....
Commercial, industrial, and agr. loans (gross)...do....	31,756	31,751	30,446	30,315	30,337	.....
Real-estate loans (gross).....do....	8,758	8,751	9,295	9,321	9,350	.....
Bond yields, domestic corporate (Moody's) 3/.....percent..	4.48	4.51	4.42	4.41	4.42	4.42
Stock prices, 500 stocks (Stand. & Poor's) 4/..1941-43=10..	41.02	40.43	50.58	51.07	51.19	52.03
Industrials, 425 stocks.....do....	44.21	43.56	54.18	54.70	54.73	55.65
Production:						
Bituminous coal 3/.....thous. of short tons..	1,644	1,587	1,411	1,410	1,429	.....
Electric power, by utilities.....mil. of kw.-hr..	11,860	11,914	12,048	12,174	12,330	.....
Passenger cars and trucks (Ward's).....number..	147,365	159,385	59,596	87,228	116,982	153,227
Petroleum (crude) and condensate 3/.....thous. of bbl..	6,712	6,796	6,893	6,919	6,911	.....
Steel 5/.....thous. of short tons..	2,041	1,996	2,003	2,026	2,024	2,011
Percent of capacity.....	##79.7	##78.0	74.2	75.1	75.0	74.5
Freight carloadings, total.....thous. of cars..	714	675	696	674	674	.....
Miscellaneous.....do....	353	338	343	336	336	.....

1/ Data do not always cover calendar weeks. 2/ Tuesday prices. 3/ Daily average. 4/ Wednesday data. 5/ Week beginning November 10, 1958: Production, 2,029 thous. short tons; operating rate, 75.2 percent. * Monthly index for October 1957. ** Wednesday price. # Excludes 469,000 and 466,000 insured unemployed reported under temporary programs (TUC) for October 18 and 25, respectively. ## Based on January 1, 1957, annual capacity (133,459,150 tons); not comparable with 1958 rates which are based on January 1, 1958, annual capacity (140,742,570 tons).

MONTHLY BUSINESS STATISTICS

ITEM	1957		1958			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
COMMODITY PRICES						
Retail price:						
All commodities (U.S.Dept.of Commerce index)..1935-39=100..	217.5	217.2	221.0	220.5	220.7	.....
CONSTRUCTION AND REAL ESTATE						
Construction contracts in 48 States (F. W. Dodge Corp.):						
Total valuation.....mil. of dol..	2,550	2,614	3,607	3,467	3,216	.....
Building, total.....do....	2,017	2,076	2,633	2,530	2,353	.....
Construction cost indexes:						
American Appraisal Co., The, average, 30 cities..1913=100..	670	672	681	683	690	691
Atlanta.....do....	713	728	737	738	756	756
New York.....do....	705	711	736	737	741	741
San Francisco.....do....	625	625	635	637	639	640
St. Louis.....do....	660	661	670	671	671	671
Associated General Contractors (all types).....do....	490	490	502	503	504	504
DOMESTIC TRADE						
All retail stores: 1/						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total.....mil. of dol..	16,373	16,949	16,596	17,000	r16,326	17,362
Durable-goods stores.....do....	5,615	5,605	5,444	5,360	r5,080	5,357
Automotive group.....do....	3,078	2,945	2,907	2,789	r2,447	2,562
Furniture and appliance group.....do....	853	919	840	872	850	910
Lumber, building, hardware group.....do....	977	1,035	1,002	1,005	1,038	.....
Nondurable-goods stores.....do....	10,757	11,345	11,153	11,639	r11,246	12,005
Apparel group.....do....	1,010	1,083	867	954	r1,042	1,132
Drug and proprietary stores.....do....	515	559	524	539	r538	560
Eating and drinking places.....do....	1,291	1,263	1,372	1,406	r1,276	1,303
Food group.....do....	3,937	4,102	4,251	4,360	r4,068	4,367
Gasoline service stations.....do....	1,262	1,287	1,410	1,448	r1,346	1,380
General-merchandise group.....do....	1,696	1,838	1,576	1,768	r1,781	1,941
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total.....do....	16,919	16,714	16,721	16,859	r16,562	16,912
Durable-goods stores.....do....	5,722	5,612	5,221	5,214	r5,095	5,322
Automotive group.....do....	3,190	3,180	2,803	2,703	2,600	.....
Furniture and appliance group.....do....	902	838	851	891	858	.....
Lumber, building, hardware group.....do....	918	905	895	919	926	.....

r/ Revised. 1/ Data for October 1958 are advance estimates.

CORRECTION for p. S-35 of October 1958 SURVEY: August 1958 production of bituminous coal should read 33,470,000 short tons.

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ITEM	1957		1958			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
DOMESTIC TRADE - Continued						
All retail stores, estimated sales, (seasonally adj.) - Con.						
Nondurable-goods stores....mil. of dol..	11,197	11,102	11,500	11,645	r11,468	1/11,590
Apparel group....do....	1,050	1,029	1,060	1,094	1,042	.....
Drug and proprietary stores....do....	543	571	536	551	563	.....
Eating and drinking places....do....	1,235	1,215	1,247	1,255	1,221	.....
Food group....do....	4,112	4,109	4,216	4,152	4,169	.....
Gasoline service stations....do....	1,255	1,250	1,306	1,340	1,338	.....
General-merchandise group....do....	1,803	1,706	1,879	1,918	1,817	.....
All retail stores, estimated inventories:						
Unadjusted, total....do....	24,270	24,500	23,500	r23,510	23,610	.....
Durable-goods stores....do....	10,690	10,380	10,720	r10,430	10,060	.....
Nondurable-goods stores....do....	13,580	14,120	12,780	r13,080	13,550	.....
Adjusted, total....do....	24,360	24,220	23,990	r23,860	23,730	.....
Durable-goods stores....do....	11,120	10,950	10,730	r10,660	10,530	.....
Nondurable-goods stores....do....	13,240	13,270	13,260	r13,200	13,200	.....
Retail firms with 4 or more stores:						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total....do....	3,942	4,236	4,045	4,277	4,128	.....
Retail firms with 11 or more stores:						
Estimated sales (unadjusted), total....do....	3,345	3,604	3,465	3,697	3,566	.....
Apparel group....do....	222	232	188	210	239	.....
Drug and proprietary stores....do....	82	87	89	92	90	.....
Eating and drinking places....do....	75	74	77	80	74	.....
Furniture, homefurnishings stores....do....	36	41	38	39	41	.....
General-merchandise group....do....	1,054	1,136	983	1,106	1,112	.....
Grocery stores....do....	1,356	1,478	1,531	1,608	1,461	.....
Lumber, building-materials dealers....do....	69	70	73	75	75	.....
Tire, battery, accessory stores....do....	62	68	81	79	69	.....
Estimated sales (seasonally adjusted), total....do....	3,567	3,466	3,728	3,771	3,685	.....
Apparel group....do....	229	219	239	250	237	.....
Drug and proprietary stores....do....	87	87	91	97	94	.....
Eating and drinking places....do....	72	71	73	75	71	.....
Furniture, homefurnishings stores....do....	38	37	41	39	43	.....
General-merchandise group....do....	1,132	1,051	1,174	1,201	1,134	.....
Grocery stores....do....	1,472	1,472	1,564	1,557	1,555	.....
Lumber, building-materials dealers....do....	62	59	64	66	64	.....
Tire, battery, accessory stores....do....	68	67	73	75	73	.....
Wholesale trade:						
Sales, estimated (unadjusted), total....bil. of dol..	11.2	12.3	11.1	11.3	11.9	.....
Durable-goods establishments....do....	4.2	4.5	4.0	4.1	4.4	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments....do....	7.0	7.8	7.2	7.2	7.5	.....
Inventories, estimated (unadjusted), total....do....	12.8	12.9	11.7	11.7	11.7	.....
Durable-goods establishments....do....	6.7	6.6	6.1	6.1	6.1	.....
Nondurable-goods establishments....do....	6.1	6.3	5.5	5.6	5.6	.....
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES						
Employees in nonagricultural establishments:						
Total, unadjusted (U. S. Department of Labor)...thousands..	52,692	52,570	50,178	r50,576	r51,234	p51,210
Manufacturing....do....	16,903	16,783	15,161	r15,462	r15,744	p15,553
Mining....do....	818	802	705	r708	r710	p707
Contract construction....do....	3,018	2,956	2,882	r2,955	r2,925	p2,887
Transportation and public utilities....do....	4,201	4,152	3,907	r3,897	r3,891	p3,891
Wholesale and retail trade....do....	11,349	11,387	10,984	r11,011	r11,143	p11,246
Finance, insurance, and real estate....do....	2,366	2,361	2,410	r2,413	r2,391	p2,378
Service and miscellaneous....do....	6,412	6,406	6,465	r6,452	r6,470	p6,469
Government....do....	7,625	7,723	7,664	r7,678	r7,960	p8,079
Production workers in manufacturing industries:						
Total....do....	12,993	12,896	11,353	r11,645	r11,943	p11,778
Durable-goods industries....do....	7,414	7,413	6,270	r6,339	r6,584	p6,480
Ordnance and accessories....do....	75	72	67	r67	r68	p70
Lumber and wood products (except furniture)....do....	599	590	572	r581	r591	p593
Furniture and fixtures....do....	321	319	286	r301	r310	p309
Stone, clay, and glass products....do....	465	460	422	430	r439	p416
Primary metal industries....do....	1,063	1,051	852	r864	r898	p918
Fabricated metal products 2/....do....	884	897	765	r788	r820	p812
Machinery (except electrical)....do....	1,223	1,204	990	r977	1,013	p1,014
Electrical machinery....do....	878	868	712	r734	r759	p755
Transportation equipment....do....	1,269	1,316	1,063	r1,034	r1,099	p1,001
Instruments and related products....do....	226	224	196	r199	r206	p208
Nondurable-goods industries....do....	5,579	5,483	5,083	r5,306	r5,359	p5,298
Food and kindred products....do....	1,219	1,140	1,081	r1,172	r1,176	p1,118
Tobacco manufactures....do....	102	97	70	86	r95	p90
Textile-mill products....do....	913	907	830	r855	r860	p862
Apparel and other finished textile products....do....	1,081	1,071	992	1,044	r1,054	p1,047
Paper and allied products....do....	460	461	429	442	446	p444
Printing, publishing, and allied products....do....	557	561	537	r542	548	p552
Chemicals and allied products....do....	542	542	496	r504	512	p518
Products of petroleum and coal....do....	169	167	157	r157	r158	p154
Rubber products....do....	207	210	175	181	188	p192
Leather and leather products....do....	330	327	317	r323	322	p320
Manufacturing production-worker indexes:						
Employment: Unadjusted....1947-49=100..	105.0	104.3	91.8	r94.1	r96.6	p95.2
Seasonally adjusted....do....	103.3	102.8	93.1	r93.2	r94.8	p93.8
Payrolls, unadjusted....do....	164.7	162.6	144.8	r150.0	r155.7	p151.7

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Data for October 1958 are advance estimates. 2/ Except ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment.

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ITEM	1957		1958			
	September	October	July	August	September	October
EMPLOYMENT AND WAGES - Continued						
Hours and earnings:						
Average weekly hours per worker, all manufacturing..hours..	39.9	39.5	39.2	39.6	r39.9	p39.6
Durable-goods industries.....do....	40.2	39.8	39.4	39.8	r40.2	p39.7
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	39.6	39.0	39.0	r39.4	r39.4	p39.4
Average weekly gross earnings, all manufacturing..dollars..	82.99	82.56	83.50	84.35	r85.39	p84.35
Durable-goods industries.....do....	89.24	88.75	89.83	r91.14	r92.46	p90.91
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	75.24	74.10	75.66	r76.04	r76.83	p76.83
Average hourly gross earnings, all manufacturing.....do....	2.08	2.09	2.13	2.13	2.14	p2.13
Durable-goods industries.....do....	2.22	2.23	2.28	r2.29	2.30	p2.29
Ordnance and accessories.....do....	2.37	2.38	2.48	2.48	r2.50	p2.48
Lumber and wood products (except furniture).....do....	1.84	1.84	1.89	1.91	r1.92	p1.91
Furniture and fixtures.....do....	1.77	1.77	1.77	1.78	r1.79	p1.79
Stone, clay, and glass products.....do....	2.08	2.09	2.11	r2.13	r2.16	p2.11
Primary metal industries.....do....	2.57	2.55	2.68	2.70	r2.72	p2.72
Fabricated metal products 1/.....do....	2.22	2.22	2.28	2.29	r2.29	p2.29
Machinery (except electrical).....do....	2.32	2.33	2.38	r2.38	2.39	p2.40
Electrical machinery.....do....	2.07	2.08	2.15	r2.14	r2.16	p2.16
Transportation equipment.....do....	2.45	2.47	2.53	r2.55	r2.55	p2.53
Instruments and related products.....do....	2.13	2.13	2.20	2.21	r2.21	p2.21
Nondurable-goods industries.....do....	1.90	1.90	1.94	r1.93	1.95	p1.95
Food and kindred products.....do....	1.91	1.94	1.99	r1.97	r1.99	p2.00
Tobacco manufactures.....do....	1.45	1.46	1.66	1.59	r1.50	p1.53
Textile-mill products.....do....	1.51	1.51	1.50	1.51	1.51	p1.52
Apparel and other finished textile products.....do....	1.51	1.49	1.50	1.52	r1.53	p1.52
Paper and allied products.....do....	2.08	2.08	2.12	2.13	2.14	p2.14
Printing, publishing, and allied industries.....do....	2.53	2.53	2.59	2.60	r2.62	p2.63
Chemicals and allied products.....do....	2.25	2.24	2.33	2.34	r2.34	p2.33
Products of petroleum and coal.....do....	2.73	2.71	2.76	r2.73	r2.76	p2.73
Rubber products.....do....	2.29	2.32	2.35	2.39	2.38	p2.39
Leather and leather products.....do....	1.55	1.55	1.55	1.56	1.57	p1.57
Labor turnover in manufacturing establishments:						
Accession rate.....monthly rate per 100 employees..	3.3	2.9	3.3	r3.9	p3.8	.....
Separation rate, total.....do....	4.4	4.0	3.2	r3.5	p3.3	.....
Discharge.....do....	.2	.2	.1	.2	p.2	.....
Lay-off.....do....	1.8	2.3	2.0	r1.9	p1.4	.....
Quit.....do....	2.2	1.3	.9	1.2	p1.5	.....
Military and miscellaneous.....do....	.2	.2	.2	.2	p.2	.....
LUMBER AND MANUFACTURES						
Lumber (National Lumber Manufacturers Association):						
Production, total.....mil. of bd. ft..	2,861	2,996	2,716	2,999	3,084	.....
Softwoods.....do....	2,344	2,490	2,236	2,477	2,541	.....
Shipments, total.....do....	2,845	3,067	2,825	3,058	3,150	.....
Softwoods.....do....	2,332	2,531	2,381	2,559	2,647	.....
Stocks (gross), mill, end of month, total.....do....	9,600	9,530	9,098	9,038	8,971	.....
Softwoods.....do....	5,816	5,776	5,599	5,516	5,409	.....
METALS AND MANUFACTURES						
Iron ore (incl.foreign ore),operations in all U.S.districts:						
Receipts at iron and steel plants.....thous. of long tons..	16,107	16,276	12,445	11,769	12,150	.....
Consumption at iron and steel plants.....do....	10,481	10,272	6,624	7,419	7,900	.....
Stocks, end of month, at furnace yards.....do....	57,486	63,557	53,725	58,075	62,325	.....
Stocks, end of month, at U. S. docks.....do....	4,358	4,888	4,869	5,399	5,687	.....

r/ Revised. p/ Preliminary. 1/ Except ordnance, machinery, and transportation equipment.
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SURVEY OF CURRENT BUSINESS